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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Riviere et al.

Serial No.: 08/252,710

Group Art Unit: 1805

Filed: June 2, 1994

Examiner: G. Elliott

For: **RETROVIRAL VECTORS USEFUL** Attorney Docket No.:  
**FOR GENE THERAPY** 8141-113-999

AMENDMENT AND FILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

18/c  
S.g.J.  
2/24/97  
**RECEIVED**

**FEB 21 1997**

**GROUP 1800**

Sir:

As of June 8, 1995, the present application had effectively been pending for at least two years, and this request is being made prior to the Applicants filing an Appeal Brief, and prior to the abandonment of the above-identified application. Accordingly, the finality of the rejection dated April 17, 1996 should be withdrawn, and an action on the merits of the newly submitted remarks should be forwarded to Applicants.

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Advisory Action mailed on November 12, 1996 (Paper No. 16) responsive to the Response to Final filed by the Applicants on October 15, 1996 (not entered, but herein incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit A) which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendments to the

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